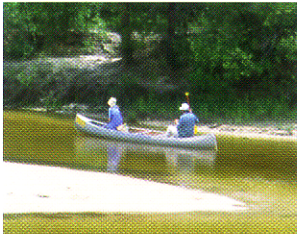


■ FEDERAL LANDS TO PARKS PROGRAM



BRINGING PARKS TO PEOPLE

The National Park Service helps communities create new and expand existing parks and recreation areas by transferring surplus federal land to state and local governments, most at no cost. The goal of the program is to expand public parks and recreation areas while reducing the cost of the Federal Government by disposing of unneeded property. The program permanently preserves land for recreational use. The National Park Service works with communities to identify eligible federal land and develop a plan for its use. Since the program's inception in 1949, more than 1,450 properties, totaling 160,000 acres, have been transferred to state and local governments for parks and recreation.

BACKGROUND

Under the authority of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, the United States Government may transfer surplus federal property to state and local governments for public purposes. These purposes include public health, education, wildlife conservation, historic preservation, airports, parks, and recreation. This is known as a public benefit conveyance. It allows the transfer of surplus federal property to a public agency at no cost if it is used for public parks and recreation in perpetuity. Only states, counties, municipalities, and other public agencies can acquire surplus federal property through the program.

